of the "Act to improve the civil service of the Commonwealth and the cities thereof," as a covert attempt to destroy the efficiency of said Act.

2. That, in view of the decided preference already given, under the original Act, to soldiers and sailors, such exemption could only be considered as an imputation upon them, and as an effort to restore in Massachusetts, under pretence of benefiting soldiers, the spoils system, which the people have emphatically condemned.

3. That we regret the passage of the bill by the Senate without opportunity being offered for a public hearing; and we urge all friends of civil service reform to watch the course of their respective representatives in regard to the measure, and to exert their influence to prevent its passage by the House.

THE so-called Earl amendment, to exempt soldiers and sailors from the requirements of the civil service law, was carried in the New York House, but failed to pass in the Senate. Scarcely had this attack upon the civil service law been defeated in New York, when a similar measure was suddenly and unexpectedly introduced into the Massachusetts Senate, where, after a short but vigorous debate, it was carried by the votes of sixteen Republicans and five Democrats against seventeen Republicans and one Independent. The Massachusetts civil service reformers have set to work to show the true character of the measure, and hope that its rejection by the House can be secured. We publish resolutions passed by the Massachusetts League in condemnation of the amendment. Similar resolutions have been passed by the Cambridge, Newton, Brookline, Fifth District, and Boston Associations. We also print elsewhere an argument against the amendment prepared by a committee of the Massachusetts League.

THE REV. HENRY LAMBERT, president of the Newton Association, and one of the earliest and most persistent advocates of a reform in the civil service, has recently written a pamphlet on "The Progress of Civil Service Reform." This pamphlet has been published by order of the executive committee of the Newton Association, and contains a detailed summary of the progress of the movement to date. For present information and future reference with respect to the salient points of the subject, it cannot fail to be valuable.

THE annual meeting of the Orange (N.J.) Association was held on May 11, 1885, and that of the Maryland Association on May 21, 1885, more extended notices of each of which will appear in our next issue. The meeting of the latter association was especially enthusiastic in point of attendance, the annual address of the president admirable, and the resolutions passed pithy and vigorous.

THE Comptroller of the Currency has decided that candidates for appointment as national bank examiners shall be subject to a special examination in order to determine their fitness.

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